April 9, 2020

The Honorable Lori Trahan
United States House of Representatives
1616 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Trahan:

Thank you for your letter of March 30, 2020, supporting the Brownfields Assessment Grant application from the City of Fitchburg, MA. I appreciate your interest in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program and the City of Fitchburg's application.

Since its inception in 1995, EPA's Brownfields Program has grown into a proven, results-oriented program that has changed the way contaminated property is perceived, addressed, and managed. EPA's Brownfields Program is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. The Program is an excellent example of the success that is possible when people of all points of view work together to improve the environment and their communities.

Last year's application process was highly competitive with EPA evaluating more than 420 grant applications. From these applications, the EPA announced the selection of approximately 150 grants.

The EPA's selection criteria for grant applications are available in the *Application Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants (October 2019)*, posted on our program website at ***www.epa.gov/brownfields***. Each application will be carefully reviewed and evaluated by a selection panel that applies these objective criteria in this highly competitive program. The grant application submitted by the City of Fitchburg will be given every consideration.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Paul Wintrob from my staff at Wintrob.Paul@epa.gov or at (617) 918-1514.

Sincerely,

Dennis Deziel
Regional Administrator